

INTIMATIONS.

DINNIFORD'S FLUID MAGNesia.
The best Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach.

DINNIFORD'S FLUID MAGNesia.
For Heartburn and Headache.
For Constipation and Indigestion.

DINNIFORD'S FLUID MAGNesia.
The best Mild Laxative for Delicate Constipation. Ladies, Children, and Infants, and for regular use in Warm Climates. Sold throughout the World.
Agents—A. S. Watson & Co., Hongkong.

GOLD MEDALS 5 SILVER MEDALS
By Appointment.

KUHN & CO.

HONGKONG YOKOHAMA
(Established 1869).

FINE ART.

CHRISTMAS SHOW.

BROWN, JONES & CO.

ITALIAN AND AMERICAN MARBLE
MONUMENTS AND MEMORIALS
IN STOCK.

METALLIC AND PORCELAIN
WRITINGS AND CROSSES.

A SKILLED EUROPEAN STONEWORK
SUPERINTENDENT IS ALWAYS
PROMPT ATTENTION TO ORDERS FROM
COASTAL PORTS.

Hongkong, 7th August, 1931.

2402

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.

WE invite attention to our first supplies of

CONFECTIONERY AND

CHRISTMAS GOODS

received by the last Mail.

JORDAN ALMONDS, NOUGAT, BUTTER

SCOTCH, ASSORTED TOFFIES, DRAGEES,

PRALINES, and a large selection of

PURE CONFECTIONERY from the

leading Manufacturers.

CADBURY'S SPECIAL CHOCOLATE

CREMES.

PINE, APRICOT, CHERRY, LIME,

GUAVA, and other FRUIT JELLIES in

great variety.

TOM SMITH'S CHRISTMAS

CRACKERS.

COLOURED OPALS mounted in Plush,

representing favourite subjects.

A large assortment of ENGLISH and

JAPANESE CHRISTMAS CARDS, of hand-

some and artistic design, suitable to all tastes

and at moderate prices.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

Hongkong, 1st November, 1931.

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THE HONGKONG DAILY PRESS.

HONGKONG, NOVEMBER 21st, 1931.

REFERENCE to the proposal to put on and

to the present excise farm contracts, the

Free Press says the Straits Settlements "will

be careful not to be drawn into any ar-

gument that would prove to be the thin

end of the wedge against the integrity of the

"Colony" status as a group of free ports.

This is an intelligible ground of objection

to the abolition of the farming system. If

there was any danger that the wedge would be

driven home after the thin end had been

inserted it would be better to bear all the

ills attending the farming system than to

run the risk of having a regular Cus-

tom tariff imposed which should strike

all or a large number of articles of im-

portance, the only question is whether

the new system would impose more in-

convenience and annoyance on the shipping

trade than would be counterbalanced by the

supposed advantages. Our Singapore con-

temporary goes on to say that the all-pow-

erful power against intermeddling with the

present system is that a change would bur-

den us with no enormous preventive service

against smuggling would itself, by dint of

the opportunities for temptation and

corruption it would offer, prove a mighty

source of demoralisation, even leaving out

of account that it would surely fail where

the astute and numerous Chinese detective

agencies at the service of the Opium Farm-

ers cannot achieve anything like success. This

seems rather an inverted mode of rea-

soning. On the question of morality it

is difficult to understand how our con-

temporary goes on to say that the all-pow-

erful power against intermeddling with the

present system is that a change would bur-

den us with no enormous preventive service

trolled by responsible officers and with a

regular system of discipline. A Customs

service no doubt offers opportunities of tem-

ptation and corruption, but all the evils are

multiplying many times over under the farm-

ing system. Then we are told that the pre-

ventive service "would surely fail where

"the astute and numerous Chinese detec-

"tive agencies at the service of the Opium

"Farmers cannot achieve anything like

"success." But if the preventive service

were under the direct control of the

Government it would still be able to

bring up of the astuteness of the Chi-

nese for detective purposes. The new ser-

vice would, moreover, be armed with larger

powers and be able to proceed on im-

proved methods. After option is once

checked its movements, but if the duty were

collected at the time of importation the op-

portunities of smuggling would be largely

diminished. As to the amount of illicit

importation of opium in the Straits, the

Free Press says that owing to the nature of

the coast line, and proximity to the Native

States on the mainland, it is not easy to

arrive at any estimate; but it quotes the

opinion of an official member of Council,

Mr. GULLAND, who some years ago was in-

clined to put the amount at not less than

one-fourth of the total consumption. If

this is anywhere near the mark surely it is

in itself sufficient condemnation of the present

system. Some smuggling there always will

be, but we cannot conceive that a Govern-

ment preventive service could prove so incomp-

etent as to let one-fourth of the importation

through without paying duty. Our con-

temporary goes on to urge the expense of

the creation of a huge special preventive de-

partment, taking for granted, apparently,

that the revenue collected would not com-

pensate for the expenditure. In fact, all through

his article the writer appears to have put

the cart before the horse. There can be no doubt

that if the Government took the collection

of the opium revenue into its own hands it

could raise a larger sum than is at pre-

sented paid by the farm, and that with

less hardship to the public and less

immorality in the preventive service. On

the other hand, we have to face the con-

sideration that vessels arriving in the port

would be subject to search, and for the

sake of levying a duty on a single article

many of the inconveniences of a regular

Customs service would be introduced.

The Mercantile will be opened for training on

Monday next.

The P. & O. steamer *Geatler* left Nagasaki

for this port at 3.30 p.m. on Thursday.

The Scottish Oriental steamer *Pha Chon*

leaves Bangkok for this port on Thursday

afternoon.

The Right Rev. Lord Bishop of Exeter will

preach at St. Paul's Cathedral on Monday at 11 a.m.,

and at St. Peter's Church at 6.30 p.m.

Since Oct. the Acting Special Constable, has

received the following telegram from Hongkong:

"There are indications of a depression in the

Pacific."

The Agents (Messrs. Carlisle & Co.) inform

us that the N. G. S. steamer *Diango*, from

Bombay, left Singapore for this port yesterday

and may be expected here on or about the 27th

inst.

The following is the order of service at Union

Church at 11 a.m. on Monday, Nov. 22, 1931:

Psalm No. 103 verses 1-13. Text: *Thou art*

merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and

plenty of mercy. Anthem: *Thou art*

merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and

The Agents (Messrs. Jardine, Matheson &

Co.) inform us that the steamer *Chelodra*, from

Calcutta and Straits for this port, left Singapore

at 4 p.m. on the 19th inst.

The Agents (Messrs. Dowell, Cartell & Co.)

inform us that the R.M.S. *Empress of Japan*

left Vancouver for Japan, Shanghai, and Hong-

kong on Thursday afternoon.

The Legislative Council will meet at eleven

o'clock this morning. The following is the

business:

1. The Bill introduced by the Hon. Mr. J. A. G.

for the purpose of amending the Merchant Ship-

ping Consolidation Ordinance, 1891.

The earliest match, the Club de la Garrison,

was commenced yesterday at two o'clock, and

is continued at eleven o'clock today. The

Garrison yesterday was the first of the series.

Captain Duff's contribution being 100 and

Mr. J. G. J. 65. The match is left in

a very open condition and promises to afford

an interesting day's cricket today. It is

hoped that the members of the teams will

attend punctually. The match will be played

on the ground at one o'clock. By permission

of Colonel Chubb, the remainder of the

Board of the A. S. Highlanders will play

during the afternoon.

Kullon's Trade Review writes:—German

steamshipowners (Kilger Line) at Hamburg who

hitherto sent vessels from the Elbe to East In-

dian, Chinese, and Japanese ports, started during

the month of January, 1931, a new line, called

the Sunda line, for which after the capital of the

company was correspondingly raised four new

steamers have been ordered. According to re-

ports these steamers have not met with approval,

since they are considered too small for the dis-

tributed purpose. The company have therefore

looking round to discover a purchaser for them,

but without much success, since up till now the

steamers have been disposed of, which, as is

well known, has been acquired by the East

India Company. The Kilger line is therefore

looking a little anxious to get rid of the other

three boats, which are not suitable for their

purpose and replace them by larger ones.

REURER'S TELEGRAMS.

SUPPLIED TO THE "DAILY PRESS."

LONDON, 18th November.

DISRUPTING RUMOURS.

An uneasy feeling is reported to prevail on

the European Bourse consequent on the

barren financial condition of the chief States.

Austria and Germany are increasing their arma-

ments.

THE TYFHOON.

More stormy weather, which arrived yester-

day morning, reports:—Sailed from Singapore

on the 9th November, experienced on the 11th

strong N.W. wind with heavy squall and high

head sea, which continued until midnight of the

15th, when we encountered a fresh breeze, which

blew with terrific force, washing up the beach

and gutting out the after cabin, besides

clearing the deck of all circumstances. The day

following ran into a N.E. gale which continued

until arrival. The sea was so heavy on the 17th

and 18th that we could only lay head to it. Lost

one Chinese passenger overboard.

The steamer *Asia*, from Haiphong, re-

ports:—Encountered a heavy gale from N.E. in

the Tonkin Gulf on 10th and 11th; with strong

damage done to masts and boats; had strong

gale from N.E. from Haiphong to St. John's,

with heavy swell from S.E.

The steamer *Sumatra* from Manila, re-

ports:—Very unsteady weather leaving Manila; re-

ceived 29.80; wind S. and S.E. strong; next

day barometer falling to 29.70, with increasing

wind, sea very confused; towards evening

wind veered to E. and N.E., blowing strong.

18th, at 10 p.m., veered to N.E., with dirty

weather and high N.E. swell to port.

The steamer *Arabian* reports:—Bay

of Bengal on the 3rd instant, a.m., rain

into strong gale with heavy cross seas, S.W.

confined squalls of barometric force,

clouds, thunder and lightning. All appear-

ance of a cyclonic storm. All appearance

of a cyclonic storm. All appearance

of a cyclonic storm. All appearance

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of a cyclonic storm. All appearance

Private, 90 days' duty \$2
..... Back & Family Rate 0.75

nothing went to the spot, no-
After a time I had to give up
got to work and everyone

Brown Kiebia.
LAWSON, P.O. 274, B. Pallett—D. Haggren,
Bons & Co.

HONGKONG, 27th October, 1951.
 MR. LOHERS & CO.
 Agents
 HONGKONG.

BODWELL, GARLICK & CO
Agents
Hongkong, 18th November, 1901

and expense. **DODWELL, CARLIEL & CO**
Agents,
Hongkong, 16th November, 1901.

Co.,
[] of Liddell will be countersigned
JARDINE, MATHESON &
Agents.
[] Hongkong, 19th November, 1931.

by
CO₂

12254

